

**Millard Public Schools**  
**Community Service Handbook**

**United States Government and Economics**



**Millard Board of Education**

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*... I have seen Americans make great and real sacrifices to the public welfare, and I have noticed a hundred instances in which they hardly ever failed to lend faithful support to one another.*

**Alexis de Tocqueville,  
*Democracy in America***

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## COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

The ten (10) hours of community service requirement is intended to foster student growth in the following ways:

- Help students gain an understanding of community needs
- Provide students with opportunities to become active, engaged members of the community
- Offer experiences that allow students to be successful in working together to help others
- Introduce students to potential career choices

### Course Requirements

- **Complete a *minimum* of ten [10] hours of community service.** To be considered community service, a student may receive *no* compensation.
  - All students must complete at least 10 hours during the semester they are enrolled in the class by the deadline set by the teacher.
    - Students must complete at least five (5) hours by the midterm date set by the teacher or have their grade lowered by one level until the requirement is complete. The temporary drop in grade will become permanent if the ten (10) hours of community service are not completed by the end of the semester.
- **Volunteer with a government agency *or* a non-profit organization that qualifies as a nonprofit under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and can produce an IRS determination letter or is listed on the IRS website as a qualified nonprofit.** Your community service hours will not count toward the requirement if the organization does not have 501(c)(3) status.
  - Students may perform community service for any city, county, state, or federal agency that accepts high school volunteers.
  - Students are limited to performing a maximum of five (5) hours of community service for any one or more school in any public school district, including Millard Public Schools. The remaining five (5) hours must be completed with a government agency or a non-profit organization as defined above.
  - Volunteer activity at a church, mosque, or synagogue does not count toward the community service requirement. The only exception to this—*which requires advance approval by the teacher*—is if the community service will be performed as part of a group of adult or youth members of the church, mosque, or synagogue that will work with a non-profit organization organized under Section 501(c)(3) to benefit the non-profit's constituent base.
- **Obtain advance approval from the student's own Government teacher for all community service** except those sponsored by organizations listed in *Community Service Handbook* or those posted on the bulletin board in your classroom. Service hours may not count if advance approval is not obtained.
- **Complete all hours outside of school time, during the semester the course is taken.** No student will be excused from any class to work toward the service requirement. Service hours completed prior to the first day of class will not be accepted.
- **Arrange his/her own community service.** The student's responsibility includes but is not limited to clearing up any questions about the requirements and limitations with your teacher, selecting an appropriate organization or agency, inquiring about potential opportunities or activities, arranging a schedule, completing the required timecard, and submitting the completed timecard to the teacher.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What do you mean by “community service?”**

*Providing service to the community is the giving of one’s time to make life better for everyone. Every time someone works without compensation to help solve a social problem or human condition, s/he has contributed to the good of all.*

### **A teacher in one of my other classes told me about a community service opportunity by an organization that isn’t listed in the handbook. I can take advantage of the opportunity without talking to my Government teacher, can’t I?**

*No, you must obtain approval from your teacher (not someone else’s Government teacher) before performing the service, as stated in the requirements on page 1. Teachers of other courses may not be aware of the community service requirements and limitations for the Government course. The service may not count if you perform it if you don’t get prior approval from your Government teacher about it. The same holds true if you hear about the opportunity from a friend or acquaintance in your school or another school.*

### **Once a week I mow my elderly neighbor’s lawn because she can’t do it herself anymore. I also usher at church on Sundays. Can these things count toward the requirement?**

*What you are doing is great, and you are to be commended for it. However, in order to count toward the requirement, the service you perform must benefit society in general rather than specific individuals or members of a particular organization. An example of a church activity that would count toward the requirement is volunteering through your church’s youth group to work with a non-profit organization that has 501(c)(3) status (such as Habitat for Humanity) to benefit the non-profit’s constituents.*

### **I have a part-time job with a non-profit organization. Will working for ten hours for free count?**

*Working for free at your place of employment may be a violation of labor laws. You need to complete the requirement by volunteering for another non-profit or government agency.*

### **Why should I perform community service?**

*There are many possible reasons for doing community service.*

- *Gain a sense of satisfaction by knowing that your actions have made a positive difference to someone*
- *Develop or enhance leadership and organizational abilities*
- *Learn new skills*
- *Explore potential career opportunities that may open new doors for you or help reinforce your current career direction*
- *Get to know more about your community*
- *Enhance job, college, and/or scholarship applications by including your community service work on them*
- *Meet people whose backgrounds and experiences differ from yours*
- *Make new friends*
- *Gain experience as a team player*
- *Have fun*

### **When completing community service hours, what's expected of me?**

*Please choose a service project you believe in, something that's of importance to you. After you've completed the project, reflect on your experience. Think about the difference the project – and you -- made in the lives of others. Think about the difference it made to your own life, then document your experience on the Community Service Evaluation form and give it to your teacher. Treat this experience as you would treat a job.*

- *Be dependable. The organization is counting on you to do what you said you would. Be prompt and report to the work site on time and as scheduled. Notify the appropriate person as far in advance as possible if you are unable to keep your commitment to the organization.*
- *Be open-minded and willing to learn. Training is important for any job you do. Ask questions to learn as much about the organization and your responsibilities as possible.*
- *Adapt to the organization's culture by dressing appropriately and following all guidelines and procedures.*
- *Treat everyone with respect and be a team player.*
- *Follow through. Complete your assigned duties so the time you give will benefit the organization.*
- *Welcome feedback. Feedback will keep you on the right track and help make your service experience successful.*
- *Keep track of your hours. Ask the site supervisor to complete the Community Service Evaluation form where indicated so your teacher can verify that you completed your hours. (Without the signature, your work may not count toward the requirement.)*
- *Be positive. This will help make the experience worthwhile to you and to the organization.*

### **I'm not sure what kind of community service I'd like to do. How do I decide?**

*To help determine what would be best for you, think about the following issues.*

- *Which social problems or issues are most important to you.*
- *If you would like to do something you've never tried before, or if you would prefer to stick to the kinds of things that you are more familiar.*
- *The kinds of things you like doing, such as reading, talking to people, working with children or senior citizens.*
- *The kinds of things you would you prefer not to do.*
- *Whether you would prefer to complete your community service in just a few days or spread it out over several weeks.*
- *What you would like to gain from the experience (see "Why should I give my time?").*

*Once you have answered these questions (and others that may have occurred to you), read the descriptions of organizations listed in this handbook to find one or more organization offering activities that match your needs.*

### **Where can I find community service opportunities?**

- *Read through the descriptions of organizations that follow. Descriptions contain the name, address, phone number, mission and other information for more than 100 organizations in the metropolitan area. All organizations listed have 501(c)(3) non-profit status or are government agencies.*
- *Check out the flyers that are posted in your classroom during the semester. When you see something of interest, phone the contact person listed on the flyer.*



**I understand that I need to work with a non-profit organization that has 501(c)(3) status or a government agency. How can I be sure an organization has the required status?**

*Look through the handbook. If an entity is listed in it, you can be sure it is a non-profit organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or a government agency. If you want to volunteer for an organization not listed in the handbook, you must ask your teacher for approval before you volunteer. Please refer to Course Requirements on page 1).*

**The organization I've selected does not have 501(c)(3) status, but it does hold fundraisers for an organization that has the status. Isn't that OK?**

*No. The organization must have 501(c)(3) of its own for your work to count for the class requirement. You cannot get any credit by volunteering for a Nebraska non-profit that does not also have 501(c)(3) status, nor for a profit-making entity, even if they are doing something to benefit an organization that holds the status. (Please refer to the Course Requirements on page 1.)*

**Friends have said they haven't been able to get in touch with contact people at some organizations they wanted to volunteer for. What should I do if that happens?**

*First of all, please do not wait until the last few weeks of the term to try to find your community service experience(s)—there may not be any available that will work for you. As you make your calls, please keep in mind that many non-profit organizations are staffed by volunteers who may not be in the office every day. Others have paid employees, but the person you need to speak with may be working on a project, or out of town, or ill when you phone. If the contact person doesn't get back to you within a day or two, try calling again. If s/he doesn't return your calls within a reasonable amount of time (a day or so, depending on how much time you have left to complete the requirement), wait no longer. Contact another organization about performing community service.*

**Some of the descriptions in this handbook include activities that take place during the summer. The summer activities count for the community service requirement even if I do them before taking the class, don't they?**

*No. As stated in the requirements on page 1, community service must be performed during the semester or summer session you take United States Government and Economics class. Community service done during the summer counts only for summer school students who perform their service between the first day of class and deadline set by the teacher.*

**If I still have unanswered questions, who should I contact for the answers?**

*If you have read the first four pages of this handbook in their entirety without finding the answer or you don't understand something, please talk to your Government teacher.*

## TELEPHONE SCRIPT

*Upon connecting with the organization you have just phoned:*

- May I please speak to (title of contact person listed in handbook). *(Make note of the person with whom you speak so you can contact him or her later, if necessary.)*

*After being connected with the person in charge of the volunteer program:*

- Hi. My name is (your name).
- I'm a Government student at (your school).
- A class requirement is that I volunteer 10 or more hours for a nonprofit organization or government agency.
- After doing a little research, I've decided I'd like to volunteer for (name of organization).

*What you say next depends on your situation. Pick one of the following statements or say something similar that better fits your particular situation:*

- I'm interested in (type of volunteer work you would like to do for that particular organization) and am wondering if you have that kind of opportunity available right now.

**OR**

- A flyer that was posted in my classroom says you need volunteers on (date or dates listed on flyer) for (name of event listed on flyer). I'd like to sign up if you still need people.

**OR**

- The *Community Service Handbook* our teacher gave us says that (name of organization) might be able to use student volunteers to (name a sample task, maybe one listed in the handbook or on the flyer, that is of interest to you). I'd really like to do that or something similar. Would that be possible?

**OR**

- I'm thinking of going into (name a profession) after I finish school. Volunteering for your organization might help me decide if that's the direction I should go. Do you have any projects right now that I might be able to help out with?

*Love cannot remain by itself -- it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.* – Mother Teresa

## Organizations with 501(c)(3) Status & Government Agencies

*The following are 501(c)(3) qualified non-profit organizations. You do not need prior approval from your teacher to perform community service for them. However, you do need prior approval if the entity you wish to do service for is not included in this handbook or is not sponsoring an opportunity posted in your classroom. Please note that some of the organizations listed here require a long-term commitment. For the organizations that do not, community service opportunities are subject to availability. Community service performed before taking United States Government and Economics cannot be used to meet the requirement.*

### **ALEGENT HEALTH SYSTEMS (three locations)**

- **BERGAN MERCY MEDICAL CENTER: Teen Volunteer Coordinator, 398-6199, 7500 Mercy Road, 68124**

This hospital assigns teen volunteers to assist in the nursing units, Mercy Care Center, the childcare center, the gift shop, and the information desk. Volunteers are asked to make a commitment of at least one semester. Orientation is provided for all volunteers.

- **IMMANUEL MEDICAL CENTER: Teen Coordinator, 572-2722, 6901 North 72nd Street, 68122**

The teen volunteer program is a great way to learn about healthcare professions. Teen volunteers help in admitting, the child development center, flower delivery, gift shop, information desk, medical records, physical therapy, radiology, and other areas. Volunteers are asked to work at least one three-hour shift weekly for one school year. Students are required to submit an application, provide personal references, go through an interview, and undergo health screening that includes a TB test. Parental permission to volunteer also is required. It can take up to three months to process a volunteer application.

- **LAKESIDE HOSPITAL: 16901 Lakeside Hills Court, 717-8651**

Lakeside Hospital is interested in student volunteers who are willing to commit to working three hours each week for one year. Depending on need, volunteers may welcome patients, transport patients in wheelchairs, provide support to families and friends of patients having surgery, assist customers in the gift shop, work with incoming patient mail and do clerical work, provide hospitality services to patients and their family or friends in the ER waiting area and help staff as necessary, and assist with the hospital garden. Teen volunteers must have parental permission, complete an application, and go through an interview. A background check will be conducted on all applicants.

- **MIDLANDS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL: Teen Coordinator, 593-3747, 11111 South 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Papillion**

The Teen Volunteer Program needs volunteers who will make a one-year commitment and select one day to work each week (Monday – Thursday) from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Teens with mature, adult behavior who are willing to follow the dress code are welcome to select three-month assignments in the Welcome Center, Registration, Surgery Center, Family Birthing Area, Medical/Surgical Floor, Medical Records, Central Supply, and Special Projects. Based on responsibility and leadership skills, one teen from each area is selected to become Department Lead. All volunteers must complete an application form, provide two written letters of recommendation, a consent form signed by a parent or guardian, and undergo criminal and child abuse/neglect background checks. There are no short-term volunteer opportunities.

### **ALS ASSOCIATION KEITH WORTHINGTON CHAPTER IN NEBRASKA, Volunteer Coordinator, 991-8788, 10730 Pacific Street @ Shaker Place, Suite 228, 68114, <http://www.alsa-midwest.org>**

The ALS Association is dedicated solely to the fight against ALS, a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Life expectancy for most people with ALS is usually two to five years following diagnosis. Today, there is no known cause and no cure for the

disease. The ALS Association's mission is to find a cure for and improve life for those diagnosed with ALS. Student volunteers can perform office work such as data entry and mailings, assist with fundraising events such as walks and golf tournaments, and more. The organization is willing to entertain students' ideas of how else they might help out. For more information, call (402) 991-8788 or toll-free (866) 762-6361, or visit the website.

**ALS in the HEARTLAND: 592-2374, 6277 South 118<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, 68137,**  
<http://www.alsintheheartland.org/>

The purpose of this organization is to enhance the quality of life of those affected by ALS, to heighten community awareness of the disease, and to strengthen public and legislative support in the fight against ALS. The organization sponsors special events throughout the year, including the Omaha Community Walk, each spring. Activities that can be performed as community service are event set up, registration, helping at food booths, clean up, and possibly others.

**ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, MIDLANDS CHAPTER: 502-4300, 1941 South 42 St., Ste. 205, 68105,** <http://www.alz.org/midlands>

The mission of the national organization and all its local chapters is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. The organization's vision is a world without Alzheimer's disease. Students may want to consider volunteering to help with the annual Memory Walk in either Council Bluffs or Omaha.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY: 393-7742, Ext. 4003, 9850 Nicholas Street, Suite 200, 68114 (across from mall)**

This organization is committed to the prevention and early detection of cancer. Volunteer opportunities range from clerical duties such as bulk mailings and data entry to special projects such as Relay for Life in late June. The staff tries to match volunteers in the office to their areas of interest and strength.

**AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION: Volunteer Coordinator, 571-1101, Ext. 6881, 14216 Daytona Circle, Suite 6, 68137**

This agency is dedicated to helping diabetics and their families live full lives, alerting all Americans to the seriousness of diabetes, educating professionals, and supporting the leading edge of diabetes research.

**AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION: Volunteer Coordinator, 346-0771, Ext. 29, 10100 J Street, Suite A, 68127**

This organization's mission is to reduce disabilities and death from cardiovascular diseases and strokes. Volunteers are needed to help with special projects during the year such as the Chalco Hills Walk. To learn about upcoming opportunities, please phone the number listed above.

**AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION: 572-3030, 7101 Newport Avenue, Suite #303, 68152**

Devoted to the prevention and control of lung diseases, this organization needs volunteers to help with various clerical duties and special projects such as the annual spring Asthma Walk and the annual Corporate Cup Run in September.

**AMERICAN RED CROSS: Volunteer Coordinator, 343-7779, 2912 South 80 Avenue, 68124,**  
<http://www.redcrossomaha.org/>

This organization offers a broad range of services that help people live safer, healthier lives. Help is needed for a variety of activities, but organizational volunteers are required to complete a detailed application and undergo a background check. Unless students want to volunteer on a long-term basis, they may want to volunteer for any special projects posted in their classrooms that do not require completion of the application and background check. For students interested in being long-term volunteers, the application may be accessed on the website.

**ANGELS AMONG US: [http://www.myangelsamongus.org/Home\\_Page.php](http://www.myangelsamongus.org/Home_Page.php)**

This strictly volunteer organization works to ease the financial strain children's cancer brings with it and to enable the family to better focus on the child throughout his or her illness. The organization works with families of children being treated for cancer at hospitals in Nebraska, even if they live in another state. Activities most likely to need student help are fundraisers. To learn of upcoming fundraisers, please visit the web site. Interested students should contact the volunteer resource person by e-mailing the address listed on the Contact Us section.

**ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION: Special Projects & Volunteer Coordinator, 330-6130, 600 N. 93 Street, Suite 206, 68114, <http://arthritis.org/chapters/nebraska>**

This agency supports research to find the cure for and prevention of arthritis and to improve the quality of life for those affected by it. Volunteers are needed to assist in coordinating and organizing the Arthritis Walk in May and providing assistance to children with arthritis at Camp Spirit during summer. Community service performed during the summer is acceptable only if performed while students are taking Government class. Volunteer opportunities may be found on the website.

**BELLEVUE LITTLE THEATRE & BELLEVUE LITTLE THEATRE THRIFT SHOP: 291-1554, 203 West Mission Avenue, Bellevue, 68005**

Students interested in theatre might want to consider doing community service for BLT by acting in plays or musicals, constructing sets, running lights and sound, selling tickets during the run of a show, ushering and more. Auditions are usually announced in the newspaper. Anyone interested in volunteering for BLT should be aware that s/he generally must volunteer for the run of an entire show, unless working in the box office or ushering. The thrift shop is a fund raising venue for the BLT, and community service workers would be welcome. The BLT Thrift shop is open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The address and phone number are the same for both BLT and the BLT Thrift Shop.

**BEMIS CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART: 341-7130, 724 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street, 68102**

The Bemis is one of the largest urban artist colonies in the United States and has a world-class reputation. The organization does not offer a significant number of volunteer activities, but interested students can phone for information about volunteer possibilities.

**BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS OF THE MIDLANDS: Partnership Development Coordinator, 330-2449, 10831 Old Mill Road, 68154**

This organization matches youth from single parent families with volunteers who provide friendship and role modeling. Students must go through an application process, which includes an interview and check of personal references, before being accepted as a mentor. A one-hour per week commitment for the school year is required. Students between the ages of 14 and 17 will be paired with a student at various elementary schools. Even though mentoring takes place in the schools, this is a program organized and coordinated by BB/BS, not the schools. All hours count toward the community service requirement. Contact the organization for additional information or an application. BB/BS also needs volunteers when it hosts special events such as Bowl for Kids' Sake and the Friends of Mentoring Luncheon to help with administrative tasks, organization, communications, and welcoming visitors. Also, BB/BS may need volunteers to help in the office doing filing, copying, and other office work

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF OMAHA:**

- Unit Director, North Omaha, 342-2300, 2610 Hamilton Street, 68131
- Unit Director, South Omaha, 733-8333, 5051 South 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, 68107
- Unit Director, 347-5687, Carter Lake, 4101 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Carter Lake, IA 51510
- Unit Director, 932-6477, Westside, 1414 Robertson Drive, Omaha 68114
- Unit Director, 208-3833, Mount View, 5322 North 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 1, 68104

All branches of this agency provide behavioral guidance and promote the health, social, educational, vocational, and character development of both boys and girls. Students who want to volunteer on a

regular basis are required to complete an application. Volunteers for special projects may or may not be required to do so.

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA: 431-9272, 12401 West Maple Road, 68164**

Boy Scouts offers a broad range of services that help people live safer, healthier lives. Members may not receive community service credit by performing any activity required to for a merit badge or other activities required by Boy Scout membership. A wide range of volunteer opportunities are available. Call for specific information.

**BRIGIT ST. BRIGIT THEATRE COMPANY, 399-6287**

Formerly housed on the College of St. Mary's campus, this theatre company has a solid reputation for first-class work. Volunteers act in plays, build sets, run lights and props, work in the box office, usher and more. If participating as an actor or crew member, volunteers must commit to the entire run of the show. Call for information about specific volunteer opportunities and to learn of the company's new location.

**BRUSH UP NEBRASKA: 961-9169, <http://www.brushupnebraska.org/contactus.htm>**

Brush Up Nebraska Paint-A-Thon is a community based volunteer program that paints the homes of low-income elderly and low-income disabled homeowners so that they may maintain their property, increase energy efficiency, and beautify the community. Painting their home creates a new sense of pride for the homeowners, and benefits the area. Brush Up Nebraska serves the Omaha metropolitan area including: Omaha, Bellevue, Gretna, Elkhorn, LaVista, Ralston, Papillion, and Council Bluffs, Iowa. Teams of volunteers typically sign up as a group, but there are times when teams do not have enough people to paint the house they are assigned. Consequently, there are opportunities for individuals to become involved. All homes are prepared in advance and are painted on the third Saturday in August. To be added to an existing team, go to the website and provide the requested information. Someone will get in touch and forward your name on to teams in need of additional people.

**CAMP FIRE USA: 397-5809, 3801 Harney Street, Suite 120, 68131**

This agency is committed to providing education opportunities for youth to realize their potential and to function as caring, self-directed individuals. Volunteers are needed to assist with projects throughout the year. Perfect opportunities for students are the Kids Café at Gomez Heritage Elementary School where volunteers prepare and serve a hot meal to students in need and the Snack Pack program where volunteers unload food and stuff backpacks with nutritious foods for children who otherwise might go hungry over the weekend.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES (four locations), Development Director, 829-9296**

- Daniel E. Sheehan Center, 3300 North 60<sup>th</sup> Street
- Juan Diego Center, 5211 South 31<sup>st</sup> Street
- St. Martin DePorres Center, 2417 Burdette Street
- Latina Resource Center, 5211 South 31<sup>st</sup> Street

Call for information about student volunteer opportunities.

**CHALLENGER LITTLE LEAGUE: 120<sup>TH</sup> Street just north of West Maple Road, <http://www.challengerlittleleague.net/>**

The organization's mission is to make little league baseball available to children ages 6 – 21 with disabilities, in Omaha and the surrounding area. By doing this, it has also provided children with disabilities the opportunity to create new friendships, gain independence, and improve self-esteem. *As with all other organizations offering summer community service opportunities, your work will not count unless it is performed during the semester or summer session you are in Government and Economics.* If interested in volunteering, you'll need to go to the "Contacts/Coaches" section of the website to email someone. It may take some time to make volunteer arrangements.

**CHICANO AWARENESS CENTER, 733-2720, 4821 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street, 68107**

The organization serves as a resource for Omaha's Hispanic community. Students can volunteer for Tobacco Free Nebraska, to do neighborhood canvassing, and more. Individuals fluent in Spanish may be able to serve as translators. Call for additional information about volunteer opportunities.

**CHILD CONNECT: Admissions Director, 556-6765, 5123 Leavenworth Street, 68106**

Child Connect is a non-governmental social service agency that places children in foster care. Student volunteers could help with special events and organize emergency childcare supplies and clothing. Volunteers who work directly with children are required to make a long-term commitment and complete an in-depth background check before beginning their community service.

**CHILD SAVING INSTITUTE: 553-6000, 4545 Dodge Street, 68132**

The Child Saving Institute (CSI) operates in three locations in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area. The organization exists to help children and families by providing a variety of services, including the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect, emergency services for children and teens in crisis and others. Students looking for a one-time or occasional volunteer opportunity may be able to do office work, help with mailings, sort clothing donations, or other activities. Students interested in making a longer term commitment may help provide childcare Wednesday and Thursday evenings so parents may participate in parenting classes. Other activities requiring a longer term commitment may also be available. Longer term activities require a 15-hour training period.

**CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL: Volunteer Coordinator, 955-4012, 8301 Dodge Street, 68114-4114**

Children's Hospital is regional medical care provider dedicated to cost-effective quality health care services and advocacy for infants through adolescents while encouraging health care education and clinical research. Children's cares for more than 5,500 in-patients annually, with 53 percent of the admissions coming from outside Omaha. Housing is provided at Rainbow House for out of town families whose children are receiving treatment. A one-year commitment is required. Community service must be performed during the semester a student is in Government class. Students wishing to make the time commitment are required to complete an application form, provide personal references, and go through health screening and a 2-step TB test. It takes 1 ½ to 2 months for the volunteer application and health-screening process to be completed. Short-term volunteer opportunities are rarely available.

**CHILDREN'S RESPITE CARE CENTER: Volunteer Coordinator, 496-1000**

- **2010 North 88 Street, 68134 (infants through age 21)**
- **13336 Industrial Road, Suite 101 (infants through age 21)**

This is an intermediate care facility for children six weeks to 21 years of age who have medical handicaps and developmental delays. Volunteers are needed at all three locations from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. to interact with the children. During summer camp from June to August, volunteers also are needed to help with field trips, swimming excursions, and more. Everyone interested in volunteering must go through an application and screening process before they can be placed as volunteers. The process takes approximately one week.

**CHILDREN'S SQUARE USA: Volunteer Coordinator, 6<sup>TH</sup> & Avenue E, Council Bluffs, IA, 322-3700**

Children's Square USA is a non-governmental social service agency that places children in foster care. Student volunteers could help out with special events and help organize emergency childcare supplies and clothing. Volunteers who work directly with children are required to make a long-term commitment and complete an in-depth background check before beginning their community service.

*We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.* –Sir Winston Churchill, British politician

**CIRCLE THEATRE: Artistic Director or Managing Director, 553-4715, 55<sup>th</sup> & Leavenworth Street, 68106**

This theatre company presents zany, original works by artistic director Doug Marr and other area playwrights, as well as other contemporary published works. In addition to its Diner Theatre (similar to Dinner Theatre but not nearly as formal), it has established the Access Theatre program for adults and youth of all physical abilities. The company, which operates year-round, invites volunteers to work with costumes, build sets, provide technical support for lights and sound, stage manage, usher and hand out programs, collect names for the mailing list, and serve food for its Diner Theatre shows. Volunteer duties such as ticket taking or handing out programs do not necessarily require a long-term commitment, but students wishing to volunteer for work on a production must commit to working the duration of the show. Any and all tips received by food servers must be turned over to the company for general operating expenses. Volunteers will be matched to their interest area and company needs.

**CITY SPROUTS: 40th & Franklin Streets, 559-3018, [ngiron@unmc.edu](mailto:ngiron@unmc.edu)**

City Sprouts brings community members, students, neighbors, and gardeners together to turn neglected inner-city vacant lots into beautiful, safe, and productive gardens. Volunteers grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers using sustainable organic gardening methods. Call or e-mail to ask about volunteering.

**COALITION FOR ANIMAL PROTECTION, INC.: P.O. Box 11760, Omaha 68111, 453-1868, [www.geocities.com/animalprotection/](http://www.geocities.com/animalprotection/)**

Formed in 1991, CAP's main goal is to reduce the number of unwanted animals through spaying and neutering. When funds permit, the organization provides spaying and neutering for pets of verified low-income owners. Other goals include educating the public about the connection between animal cruelty and human violence, educating the public about "B" dealers or "bunchers" who use dubious means to obtain animals for questionable or unsavory purposes; and sponsoring free board for pets of victims of domestic violence who leave home and do not want to leave their pets behind with an abusive family member. The main volunteer activities for students are the helping out at the vaccination clinics held at least monthly in various metro locations and passing out educational materials at various metro locations about the importance of spaying and neutering pets.

**CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER: Volunteer Department Manager, 449-4000, 601 North 30 Street, 68131**

Formerly known as St. Joseph Hospital, this nonprofit has grown from its original two-story frame building with 28 beds, established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1870, to its current facility, licensed for 404 beds in eight primary care and three urgent care centers. It is dedicated and committed to quality in caring, teaching, leading and healing mind, body and spirit. Volunteers may be placed on an individual basis for short-term assignments, but a long-term commitment of at least one semester is preferred. Possible short-term opportunities include office and clerical work. Longer-term opportunities include working in any patient care area except the emergency room, the gift shop, and in the administrative offices. Volunteers may be required to complete a health screening, which would include a TB test.

**CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION: Executive Director, 330-6164, 11917 Pierce Plaza, 68144**

This organization is committed to conducting ongoing research and working with individuals and families affected by the disease. When possible students will be matched with volunteer assignments in their interest areas. For instance, journalism students might edit or write articles for the Footnotes newsletter. Students studying photojournalism might take photographs for the newsletter or to document special events. The volunteer coordinator is open to students' suggestions for volunteer activities. General volunteer possibilities include helping with bulk mailings, data entry, answering the phone, hanging banners for special events, calling other volunteers to remind them of the dates they have signed up to work, and more.



**DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER: Volunteer Coordinator, 444-7413, 4102 Woolworth Avenue, 68105**

Formerly the Douglas County Hospital, this government agency no longer provides hospital services. It now offers assisted care, long term care, and skilled nursing services. Volunteers are usually needed after school Mondays through Thursdays.

**DOUGLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Volunteer Coordinator, 455-9990 or [house@omahahistory.org](mailto:house@omahahistory.org), 30<sup>TH</sup> and Fort Streets, Building #11B, 68111**

The Douglas County Historical Society is located in two adjacent buildings at historic Fort Omaha on the Metropolitan Community College campus. The organization's mission is to collect, preserve and present the history of Douglas County. Community service opportunities at the museum include telephone and mailing support, maintenance, special projects, and assisting with receptions and special events. Opportunities at the library and archives include clipping and filing newspaper articles, computer entry and special projects. If interested in volunteering for this organization, call or e-mail to find out what specific opportunities are available.

**DURHAM MUSEUM: Volunteer Coordinator, 444-5071, 801 South 10 Street, Omaha 68108, <http://www.dwhm.org/opportunities-volunteering-benefits.asp>**

Formerly the Durham Western Heritage Museum, this organization is located in Omaha's historic train station. It is dedicated to the preservation of and education about Omaha and the region's history. It also hosts special temporary exhibits. Volunteers can work at the admissions desk, in the gift shop, at the old fashion soda fountain, or for a variety of other activities. Long term volunteers need to complete the Volunteering Profile available online. Phone for information on possible short term volunteer activities for any special events you may hear about.

**EASTER SEALS NEBRASKA: Events Coordinator, 345-2200, Ext. 4, 638 North 109 Plaza, 68154, [http://ne.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NEDR\\_contactus](http://ne.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NEDR_contactus)**

This agency is devoted to helping Nebraskans with disabilities. Help with the database and other clerical tasks is needed year-round.

**EASTERN NEBRASKA COMMUNITY OFFICE OF MENTAL RETARDATION & DEVELOPMENT (ENCOR), 444-6554, 900 South 74<sup>th</sup> Plaza, Suite 200, 68114**

ENCORE accepts volunteers on a long-term basis only. In-depth training of all volunteers is required before they can be placed. Please call for information about community service opportunities.

**EASTERN NEBRASKA OFFICE ON AGING (ENOA): Senior Help Program Coordinator, 444-6558, 4223 Center Street, 68105**

Help older people maintain a dignified, independent lifestyle by volunteering to do handyman tasks, light housekeeping, yard help and winter snow removal. Opportunities are available most days of the week but arrangements must be made in advance. The time sheet must be signed by an official representative of the organization, not the individual who received assistance. Students may work alone or in groups, evenings and weekends.

**EL MUSEO LATINO, 731-1137, 4701 South 25 Street, 68107, <http://www.elmuseolatino.org/>**

El Museo Latino is the first Latino art and history museum in the Midwest. Founded in 1993, this organization has become known for the excellence of its exhibits and programs. It is ranked as one of the top 20 visitor attractions in Omaha. The museum presents seven exhibits each year with a focus on local, national and international Latino artists. Special programming is offered during the school year and summer, including Cinco de Mayo and Hispanic Heritage Month. Among its educational offerings are traditional folklorico dance classes and performances. Various volunteer opportunities are available periodically.

**FELINE FRIENDZ IN NEBRASKA: 778-1111, P.O. Box 641818, Omaha, 68164,**  
<http://www.felinefriendz.org>

The only animal rescue organization in Omaha dedicated solely to cats, FFIN is an all-volunteer group with a mission of rescuing, rehabilitating and “rehomeing” stray & feral cats. This no-kill organization provides veterinary care, including spaying and neutering, places strays in foster and adoptive homes, and integrates feral cats into managed outdoor colonies. Adoptions take place most Saturdays 11:00 - 3:00 at Petco on 136 and Maple Streets most Saturdays. Call to ask about helping at the adoption clinics or any other organized event (such as a fundraiser) where volunteers may be needed. Fostering cats is not suitable for community service.

**FONTENELLE NATURE ASSOCIATION: Volunteer Coordinator, 731-3140, Extension 227, 1111 North Bellevue Boulevard, Bellevue 68005-4000, [www.fontenelleforest.com](http://www.fontenelleforest.com)**

Fontenelle Nature Association operates both the Fontenelle Forest Nature Center in Bellevue and the Neale Woods Nature Center at 14323 Edith Marie Avenue in Omaha. Volunteers are a valued and important human resource for both. They help provide a broad range of activities, from monitoring bluebird nest boxes to making sure the newsletters reach members. All volunteers are required to complete an application form in advance of starting. Government students doing volunteer service hours need to identify themselves as such so the requirement of making a long-term commitment can be waived. Possible activities include assisting with mailings of newsletters and day camp flyers, receptionist duties, and helping with special events and children’s craft projects.

**GIRLS ON THE RUN OF NEBRASKA: 4008 South 81<sup>st</sup> Street, Lincoln, 68506, (402) 610-5355, <http://www.girlsontherunofnebraska.org/>**

This organization, the Nebraska affiliate of Girls on the Run International, is located in Lincoln but sponsors events in Omaha as well. It provides programming that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running. Volunteers, who do not have to be runners, serve as role models. Females who want to make a commitment of approximately 22 hours throughout the year can volunteer as coaches; volunteers are required to have a car to ensure they can get to the coaching site on time every time. Female and male volunteers are needed for the two Omaha area 5K Day annual runs in October or November and May.

**GLADIATORS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (OMAHA GLADIATORS): 571-7222, 722 Irvington Road, Omaha, 68122**

Call for information about volunteer opportunities.

**GOODWILL INDUSTRIES (five locations):**

- **Store Manager, 894-2357, 14227 Hillside Circle, 68105**
- **Store Manager, 493-3238, 2936 North 108<sup>th</sup> Street, 68164**
- **Store Manager, 592-2751, 8068 South 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Papillion, 68128**
- **Store Manager, 397-0542, 8310 Spring Street, 68124**
- **Store Manager, 341-4609, 1111 South 41<sup>st</sup> Street, 68105**

The purpose of this organization is to develop and promote occupational capabilities and opportunities for people with vocational disadvantages, including those who experience disabilities as well as social and economic hardships. A two-hour minimum commitment is required. Help is needed for activities such as sorting, tagging, hanging, and shelving donations. Volunteers must contact the specific location where they wish to volunteer. Students contacting the organization less than two weeks before the community service deadline may be denied.

*No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave."*  
- Calvin Coolidge, thirtieth President of the United States

**GREAT PLAINS GIRLS SCOUT COUNCIL: Membership Services, 558-8189, Extension 0, 2121 South 44<sup>th</sup> Street, 68105**

This agency is committed to helping girls develop to their highest potential. Short-term volunteer opportunities include Store Associates in Juliette's Boutique and office help.

**GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION: 593-9670, 7547 Main Street, Suite A, Ralston, 68127**

Volunteers can help site directors during tournaments. Call for information on other volunteer opportunities.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: Volunteer Coordinator, 457-5657, 2204 Ames Avenue, 68110, <http://www.habitatomaha.org/>**

This organization is devoted to rebuilding homes to help improve the living conditions of individuals in need. Female and male general construction volunteers of all skill levels are needed each week to help renovate homes in the metropolitan area. The Women Build program “empowers women to build Habitat for Humanity homes, enabling them to positively impact the lives of children by making homeownership a present reality for families.” Help is also needed from time to time with special events. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Minors must have a parent or legal guardian complete a waiver form that is delivered or mailed by U.S. Post to the main office prior to performing any service. Adults are also required to complete a waiver form in advance. All volunteers are required to sign up in advance. Be sure to ask for the exact location of the building site.

**HABITAT RESTORE: Volunteer Coordinator, 934-1033, 1003 South 24 Street, 68108**

Habitat Restore provides financial backing to Habitat for Humanity by selling donated building materials at a relatively low cost to the community. The organization is open weekdays from 9:00 to 5:00 and on Saturdays from 9:00 to 3:00. Students wishing to earn community service credit can help out by stocking shelves, helping customers carry materials from the store to their vehicle, answering the phones, and other general tasks.

**HEARTLAND FAMILY SERVICE CENTER: Volunteer Coordinator, 552-7418, 2101 South 42 Street, 68105**

Heartland Family Services operates a variety of programs designed to protect children, help adults and strengthen families. Junior Friends is an organization open to interested students who have completed their freshman year of high school. It is made up of socially mature teens who want to deepen their commitment to volunteerism. The group helps Family Services with special projects such as the annual Senior Prom. Members of Junior Friends arrange dinner, dancing, entertainment, and the selection of a Prom King and Queen.

**HEARTLAND PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY: 933-4969, 6916 Maple Street, 68104, <http://www.heartlandperformingartsacademy.org>.**

Incorporated in 2005, this organization’s mission is to train students for professional ballet opportunities. In addition to dance classes, the Performing Arts Preschool is in session on weekday mornings. (Please remember that students will not be excused from class to perform community service.) No information is available on the website about volunteer opportunities. Interested students need to inquire with the organization.

**HENRY DOORLY ZOO: Explorer Post Advisor, 3701 S. 10th Street, 68107, <http://www.henrydoorlyzoo.com>**

Anyone interested in volunteering must make a long term commitment. Students aged 14 – 22 interested in learning about the zoo need to call the zoo and/or go to the website for more information.

**HETRA (Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Academy): 991-8448, 4906 S. 180<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, 68135, and 29430 Ida Street, Valley, 68064, <http://www.hetra.org/Volunteering.htm>**

HETRA exists to improve the quality of life, both physically and emotionally, to adults and children with disabilities through equine assisted activities. Volunteers must commit to at least one 2-3 hour time slot per week for eight weeks. Those unable to commit to that amount of time are welcome to substitute for regular volunteers who are ill. Training is required for most volunteer positions. Available positions and jobs include: Horse Leader, Side Walker, Grooming/Tacking. Volunteers may also help with special events and in the office.

**HILLSIDE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION: Auxiliary Coordinator of Volunteers, <http://hillsideleague.org/index.htm>**

Hillside Athletic Association is a charter member of Little League Baseball, Inc. It offers recreational baseball and softball for children aged 5 to 18. The playing season generally runs from mid-April through the end of June. The organization's goals are to provide a fun and safe atmosphere for the baseball and softball players and to teach good sportsmanship. The Hillside website states that it takes over 1,500 hours of volunteer time to help operate the concession stands. Interested students need to contact one of the volunteer coordinators by e-mail. Their addresses may be found on the website under "Board."

**HOSPICE HOUSE – THE JOSIE HARPER RESIDENCE: Executive Director, 343-8600, 7415 CEDAR STREET, 68124, [gary@hospicehouseomaha.org](mailto:gary@hospicehouseomaha.org)**

Hospice House is a 26-bed residential facility for individuals with terminal illnesses. Student volunteers interested in performing short-term or one-time service can decorate the facility for holidays or special events, interact with residents, and work on arts and crafts projects. Students with an instrumental or a vocal bent are invited to provide entertainment for the residents. Pianists may use the on-site piano and those with other instruments may use their own. Opportunities are available primarily on weekends. Students who wish to provide long-term community service are encouraged to volunteer through the Visiting Nurse Association's teen program. Contact the executive director at or phone.

**INTERGENERATION ORCHESTRA OF OMAHA: 444-6536, ext. 221, [Chris.Gillette@hss.state.ne.us](mailto:Chris.Gillette@hss.state.ne.us)**

Founded in 1985 through a grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation, with sponsorship of the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, the Intergeneration Orchestra of Omaha brings together performing artists of two eras, joined through the universal language of music. Orchestra musicians are either age 25 and younger or 50 and older. The concert season runs from September through April, with a schedule of 10 to 15 concerts for senior and retiree groups, at nursing homes, private events, conferences and schools. Students who have been accepted as Orchestra members may earn community service credit for performing for any non-private event. Students who are not orchestra members may be able to help with administrative and/or organizations activities associated with concerts and special events.

**JOSLYN ART MUSEUM: Visitor and Volunteer Service Coordinator, 342-3300, 2200 Dodge Street, 68102**

This regionally known art museum provides education to families and individuals that attend its programs throughout the year. Although a limited number of special events are available for short-term, one-time assignments, the museum generally asks volunteers to commit to a minimum of 12 hours. Long-term assignments require that an application be completed. Long-term assignments include JAMBassadors, which gives students the opportunity to assist in the education department. Students interested in joining JAMBassadors need to contact Susie Severson at the phone number listed above.

**JUVENILE DIABETES RESEARCH FOUNDATION: 397-2873, 9202 West Dodge Road, Suite 304, 68114**

Established in 1977, the Omaha-Council Bluffs Chapter emphasizes outreach efforts. The Bag of Hope is an education and outreach program available through the chapter that is designed for young children and

teenagers upon diagnosis with diabetes and their families. The Bag of Hope is a comprehensive collection of educational and comforting materials for the entire family. The organization needs volunteers to help with mass mailings and other office work and for special events. Contact the organization to find out what opportunities might be available.

**KEEP OMAHA BEAUTIFUL: Executive Assistant or Executive Director, 444-7774, 1819 Farnam, Suite 306, 68183**

Keep Omaha Beautiful (KOB) is devoted to maintaining the beauty of our city by reducing litter. Volunteers can help after school, evenings, and/or weekends with clean-up projects and recycling campaigns. However, KOB usually wants groups of volunteers for specific projects that are unsupervised. Unsupervised activities cannot be verified by a staff person and therefore can't count for community service unless special arrangements can be made with KOB for an adult in the group to serve as a proxy site supervisor to verify hours worked. (Please remember that someone other than a parent or guardian must supervise a student and/or sign his or her timecard.)

**KINGSWOOD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION: Office Manager, 333-0789, 14706 Giles Road, Omaha, 68138**

The purpose of the organization is to provide athletic opportunities for children and youth ranging from 5 to 18 years of age. A variety of team sports are sponsored year round including baseball, select baseball, football, cheerleading, and wrestling. Volunteers are needed to work at the concession stands, but it may be difficult to make volunteer arrangements unless you know of a specific event that's about to take place. Leave a message to learn what will take place in the near future. If a reply is not forthcoming in a reasonable amount of time, please find a different organization to work with.

**KNIGHTS OF AK-SAR-BEN FOUNDATION, 554-9600, <http://www.aksarben.org> or <http://www.rivercityroundup.org>**

For more than 25 years the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben Foundation has organized River City Roundup. The organization relies heavily on volunteers (more than 3,000) who are committed to producing an annual fair and festival dedicated to the celebration of the region's heritage and agricultural roots. Volunteer opportunities for youth may include assisting with the Rough 'N Ready Exceptional Rodeo for disabled children, the Ak-Sar-Ben Invitational Art Show featuring nationally renowned artists with ties to Nebraska, hospitality for guests and participating rodeo cowboys and cowgirls, and AgVentureland exhibits and entertainment. A mandatory volunteer meeting is held in early to mid-September, so *volunteers need to sign up by September 1.*

**LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY: 5513 Center Street, 68106, 595-1256, <http://www.leagueofhumandignity.com>**

The mission of the League of Human Dignity is to actively promote the full integration of individuals with disabilities into society. The organization advocates the needs and rights of persons with disabilities and provides services to involve them in becoming and remaining independent citizens. Help is needed for the special events and with daily tasks.

**LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY: 344-2242, 10832 Old Mill Road, Suite 2, 68154, [http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org/all\\_chap](http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org/all_chap).**

This organization is dedicated to raising funds for medical research on leukemia and lymphoma. Volunteers are needed from time to time to help with mass mailings and distributing flyers. Volunteers may also be needed for special events. A volunteer interest form may be found on the website.

**LITERACY CENTER FOR THE MIDLANDS: Executive Director, 342-7323, 3615 Dodge Street, 68131**

This well-established organization seeks to reduce illiteracy among adults and their families in the metropolitan area. Over the years the profiles of adult learners have become more diverse and the

organization is responding to the growing need. Volunteers are needed for various special projects such as holiday gift-wrapping. Most other activities require a long-term commitment.

**LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES: Volunteer Coordinator, 661-3126**

Lutheran Family Services provides quality human care services that build and strengthen the individual, family, and community life. Volunteers help provide welcoming hands to new residents through the Heartland Refugee Resettlement and New American Programs, support new families through parenting classes at the Building Families Boutique, educate and entertain youth through the TEAM After School Program and work with children and families involved in adoption and foster care issues. Volunteers can help with special events like the Healthy Families Walk held in August/September, the BRIDGE Bike Ride held in June, and Christmas activities for adoption and foster care participants.

**LUTHERAN HOME: Volunteer Coordinator, 346-3344, 530 South 26 Street, 68105**

This entity is one of only a few non-profit nursing facilities in Omaha with 501(c)(3) status. Students are encouraged by Lutheran Home to contact them about volunteering to visit with residents, help with various organized activities such as bingo, doing seasonal outdoor work such as mowing the lawn or shoveling snow, or even folding linens or other housekeeping tasks. Students who wish to volunteer on a long-term basis must go through an application process, but that will be waived for students wishing to do limited community service (10 hours, for example).

**LYDIA HOUSE: Volunteer Coordinator, 829-1512, 2706 North 21 Street East, 68110**

This shelter for homeless families, run by the Open Door Mission (see page 19), needs volunteers year-round. Volunteers can provide childcare, answer the Shelter Hot Line (training provided), help with cleaning and organizing, and more. Both female and male volunteers are welcome.

**MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION: Coordinator of Volunteers, 333-8999, 11926 Arbor Street, Suite 102, 68144, <http://www.nebraska.wish.org>**

Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience. It offers many opportunities for community service. Students may participate in the organization's parade entries during Papillion Days in June, the Ralston 4th of July parade, the River City Roundup Parade in September, and possibly others by doing things like handing out balloons, giving candy to the crowd, or carrying a banner. Help is needed before major holidays with gift-wrapping, but basic gift-wrapping skills are essential. Creating Wish Memory Scrapbooks at the Make-A-Wish office is suitable for the community service requirement, but scrapbooking from home is not.

**MAPLE CREST CARE CENTER: Director of Activities, 2824 North 66 Avenue, 68104, 551-2110**

This long-term care facility, which is affiliated with American Baptist Homes of the Midwest, provides skilled nursing services primarily to the elderly. Volunteers are able to assist with a variety of programming activities, most often during day time hours, such as Bingo, visiting with residents, escorting residents to non-denominational church services, occasional outings, and the August carnival. Weekend activities that require a 2-3 hour commitment include distributing library books, helping with the music program once a month, and various other special activities.

**MARCH OF DIMES: 496-7111, Extension 5, 11840 Nicholas Street, Suite 220, 68154**

After polio was defeated the mission of this organization became one of fighting to eliminate all birth defects and reduce infant mortality. Special events include March for Babies and the Lincoln and Omaha Chef auctions. Phone for information on volunteer needs.

**MASTER SINGERS: 392-0111, <http://www.mastersingers.com>**

The Master Singers is an ensemble of singers from Omaha, eastern Nebraska, and western Iowa. Members are selected by audition and volunteer their time from September through May. Although the

group is a nonprofit organization governed by Concert Hall Series, Inc., many of its singers are professional musicians and educators. Student can earn community service by volunteering as ushers at concerts, all of which are held in the auditorium at Millard West High School. The performance calendar is posted on line.

**MERLIN'S REFUGE: 895-6605, P.O. Box 391192, 68139, <http://www.merlinsrefuge.com>**

Merlin's mission is to provide a safe and loving environment in the facility and in the homes in which animals are placed prevent unnecessary euthanasia of any non-terminally ill animal, provide an alternative to traditional shelters through a no-kill policy that specifies that animals never be euthanized except when compassion for a suffering animal demands it and no reasonable alternative exists. Fundraisers are held frequently throughout the year and students are encouraged to help with these activities. The organization also holds adoption clinics at various Pet Co stores on Saturdays. Other volunteer opportunities are available. Fostering an animal is not suitable for community service. To learn more, go the web site above. To volunteer, students can call the number above from 9:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m., or contact Merlin Frye at [MerlinFrye@aol.com](mailto:MerlinFrye@aol.com).

**METHODIST HOSPITAL: Teen Volunteer Coordinator, 354-4533, 8303 Dodge Street, 68114**

A wide variety of volunteer opportunities are available for students wishing to make a long-term commitment, but the program is so popular that there's usually a waiting list of potential volunteers. Most assignments are long term, but occasionally a short-term assignment may be available. All interested students must go through an application process, which includes health screening and a TB test.

**MID-AMERICA BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE: Rescue Agent, 510-1346, <http://www.petfinder.org/shelters/NE57.html>**

This organization rescues and "re-homes" Boston Terriers and Boston Terrier mixes who have been surrendered, are homeless, neglected, strayed, or are no longer wanted by their breeders. Students may be able to volunteer for special events such as fundraisers. Activities that are not suitable as community service are fostering a terrier and selling coupon books for department store discounts. To find out about available opportunities, e-mail the rescue agent by going online to the "Volunteer" page and following the link, or phone.

**MIDWEST GERIATRICS: Public Relations Department, 827-6015, 7915 North 30 Street, 68112**

Located in the historic Florence area, Midwest Geriatrics (MG) manages several care facilities, including Florence Home Healthcare Center, Florence Home Assisted Living, Royale Oaks Assisted Living, and House of Hope Alzheimer's Care. MG facilities offer numerous community service opportunities that are both interesting and meaningful. Among the possibilities for working with the residents are computer education, gardening, visiting, special events, and many, many more. To arrange community service, you will need to discuss your specific interests (computers, gardening, etc.) with someone in the public relations department.

**MILLARD GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER: Activity Department Head, 895-2266, extension 38, 12856 Deauville Drive, 68137**

Volunteers are needed at this care facility to visit with residents and help with holiday activities and special events. Other possible volunteer activities include helping with crafts classes, reading assistance, outings for residents, gardening, and clerical tasks. Volunteers, who are matched to their interest areas, are encouraged to offer suggestions about projects they would be interested in doing. A 90-minute orientation is required of all new volunteers.

**MILLARD MANOR: 896-2319, 12835 Deauville Drive, 68137**

Volunteers are needed at this independent living center to call bingo, do light housekeeping, visit with residents, clerical tasks, reading and letter writing for visually impaired residents, and more. Most

volunteer activities are available between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The only evening activity is calling bingo on Mondays and Fridays from 6—8.

**MILLARD STAR SOCCER ASSOCIATION: Executive Director, 896-4420,**

The mission is to provide opportunities for youth to participate in soccer. Volunteer opportunities include clerical and fieldwork.

**MOSAIC: Volunteer Coordinator, 366-7242- 4980 South 118 Street, 68137,  
[www.mosaicinfo.org](http://www.mosaicinfo.org)**

Mosaic is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a recognized service organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Having merged with Bethphage and Martin Luther Home Society in 2003, MOSIAC provides support and advocacy for people with disabilities in Nebraska and 15 other states and Great Britain. Student volunteers can become involved with clients one-on-one at the vocational centers when school is not in session if willing to make a long-term commitment or various residential sites in the evenings and on weekends.

**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS—NEBRASKA CHAPTER: Volunteer Coordinator, 572-3190, 7101  
Newport Avenue, Suite 304, 68152**

This agency is devoted to the research, cause, cure, and prevention of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and offers services to people with MS and their families. Special events that need student volunteers include the MS Walk and Celebrate Cycling, where students can perform administrative and/or organizational tasks. The organization also needs periodic help with mailings.

**MUNROE-MYER RECREATION THERAPY PROGRAM: Recreation Therapist, 559-3018,  
University of Nebraska Medical Center, 68198-5430**

This program is designed to provide social and recreational opportunities for children, youth, and young adults with developmental and/or physical disabilities. Volunteers are paired up with disabled youth to participate in recreational activities such as swimming, visual arts, tactile/sensory projects, music, dance, cooking, and other activities.

**MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION: Health Care Services Coordinator, 390-2914**

Muscular Dystrophy Association is devoted to finding the cause and treatment for over 40 neuromuscular diseases. Help is needed for the annual Labor Day weekend telethon and various fundraising events such as Lock Up, where volunteers can take calls from people pledging donations.

**NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF NEBRASKA: 572-3180, 7101 Newport Avenue,  
Suite 301, 68152, <http://www.kidneyne.org>**

The Foundation's mission is to prevent kidney and urinary tract diseases, improve the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by these diseases, and increase the availability of all organs for transplantation. The organization supports research and sponsors continuing education programs, patient services and community resources. Students interested in volunteering can help with fundraisers and special events for patients and their families, health screenings for individuals at risk, mass mailings, data entry and updating the web site.

**NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT: 552-9260, 139 South 40th Street, 68131**

Nebraska Aids Project works toward the prevention and education of AIDS. Volunteers participate in structured experiences working closely with staff on special projects such as AIDS Walk Nebraska and night of 1000 Stars, perform clerical work, and more. Volunteers must complete an application form, which takes time to process, and sign a confidentiality pledge. Phone to learn about specific opportunities for students.



**NEBRASKA CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY: Volunteer Coordinator, 451-0787, 4939 South 118 Street, 68137**

This organization provides adoption services and services to foster children. Student volunteers can assist with clerical work on a periodic basis, do seasonal yard work, and possibly assist with day care for 2—7 year old foster children. Volunteer help is usually needed for the Sand in the City event at Miller's Landing on the Riverfront.

**NEBRASKA HEALTH SYSTEMS (two locations): Volunteer Services, 559-4197**

- **CLARKSON HOSPITAL: 42<sup>nd</sup> and Dewey**
- **UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL: 44<sup>th</sup> and Emily**

These Nebraska Health Systems hospitals both have many meaningful and rewarding volunteer experiences in the Emergency Room, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Child Life, Geriatrics, Gift Shop, Pediatric Clinic, Outpatient Pharmacy, various nursing floors, and more. Volunteers are asked to make a six-month commitment (with the possibility of temporary leaves of absence for school or personal reasons) and to work two hours each week in their assigned service area. Program hours are Monday – Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., as well as Saturdays from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Additional hours may be available during the summer. Potential volunteers must complete an application form, undergo health screening that includes a TB test. An orientation session is required.

**NEBRASKA HUMANE SOCIETY: Volunteer Coordinator, 444-7800, 8929 Fort Street, 68134**

This agency is known for its care and concern for animals. Volunteers are needed to help bathe, walk, and care for the animals, and clean cages. All new volunteers must attend an orientation session before starting their duties. A six-month commitment of 8 hours each month is required, with the national dog agility trials, usually held in the summer, as a possible exception. Students are required to complete an application, attend an orientation session, complete a Saturday training session, go through an interview with the volunteer coordinator, and have a tetanus vaccination.

**NEBRASKA STORYARTS: <http://www.nebraskastoryarts.org/index.html>**

Nebraska StoryArts' (NSA) mission is to preserve, perpetuate, and celebrate storytelling of all cultures and to nurture, sustain, and develop the storytelling community of tellers and listeners. NSA produces storytelling festivals, conducts workshops for adults, a storytelling camp for 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade children, conducts outreach through schools, libraries, and other community-based organizations, and more. Unless NSA specifically requests teen volunteers via a flier sent to the classroom, the only way to contact the organization is through the support page on its website.

**NEW CASSEL RETIREMENT CENTER: 393-2277, 900 North 90<sup>th</sup> Street, 68114**

An assisted living care facility for the elderly, New Cassel provides activities, meals, and health services as needed. Visit one-on-one with residents, provide assistance in the dining room, or help out with special events and activities.

**OLLIE WEBB CENTER, INC: Volunteer Coordinator, 344-4218, <http://www.olliewebbinc.org>, 1941 South 42nd Street, Suite 122, Center Mall, 68105-2942**

The Ark of Omaha and Career Solutions, Inc. merged in 2005 to form the Ollie Webb Center, Inc. The organization is a community resource for families and individuals with special needs. Volunteers are needed to help with projects like Honey Sunday and the Just Friends Program that matches young people with and without special needs. Volunteer opportunities usually are available year round.

**OMAHA AREA YOUTH ORCHESTRA: 238-2044, <http://www.oayo@radiks.net>**

Auditions are held in the spring for membership in the following year's orchestra. A long-term commitment is required and community service credit will be granted only for public performances. An audition schedule is posted on the website. Students also may be able to volunteer at concerts as ushers or possibly help with fundraising events. Contact OAYO for information.

**OMAHA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Volunteer Coordinator, 342-6164, extension 418, 500 South 20<sup>th</sup> Street, 68102**

This organization provides high quality participatory and educational experiences oriented toward the interests of children in the areas of the arts, humanities, and natural and applied sciences. Volunteers are needed to help with museum exhibits, children's activities, and special events. Volunteer requirements include enthusiasm and creativity; reliability; and willingness to work well with other volunteers, staff, parents, and children. New volunteers must complete an application process, which includes a background check, and are required to attend an orientation session.

**OMAHA COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE: Backstage Coordinator or Box Office Coordinator, 553-4890, extension 114, 6915 Cass Street, 68132**

This organization is the largest community playhouse in the United States both physically and programmatically. It provides quality theatrical entertainment to the metropolitan area and surrounding communities and a creative outlet for amateur actors, actresses, musicians, and others. Volunteers are able to help backstage and front-of-house. Backstage volunteers can help build sets, props, costumes, etc. Front-of-house volunteers are needed to assist in the box office and usher during performances. Internship students cannot claim community service credit for their experiences.

**OMAHA FOOD BANK: 331-1213, 6824 J Street, 68117-1016, <http://www.omahafoodbank.org/volunteers.htm>**

This agency is a food depository for five to seven million pounds of donated food that is distributed annually to social service agencies such as pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and non-profit day care centers. Help is needed to sort the donations and with several special events throughout the year that are listed on the website.

**OMAHA PARKS AND RECREATION, COMMUNITY CENTERS, 444-5930, Various Locations, <http://www.ci.omaha.ne.us/parks/Community%20Centers/cchome.htm>**

Each of Omaha's community/senior centers provides a variety of programs and activities for people of all ages. Each center's programs and activities are unique. A background check may be required for some volunteer activities (such as helping out with a sports league). As with the other organizations listed in this handbook, volunteer activities are not necessarily available at any given time. Depending on the programs offered at the centers, some may not use volunteers at all. The person in charge of community center volunteerism will know which centers use and are in need of volunteers.

*Northeast:* A.V. Sorensen Community Center, 4808 Cass Street; Adams Community Center, 3230 John Creighton Blvd.; Benson Community Center, 6008 Maple St.; Florence Community Center, 2920 Bondesson St.; Near North Senior Center, 2415 Grant St.; Sherman Community Center, 5701 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St.

*Northwest:* Camelot Community Center, 9270 Cady Ave.; Common Ground, 1701 Veterans Dr., Elkhorn.

*Southeast:* Christie Heights Community Center, 5105 S. 37th St.; Columbus Park Community Center, 1515 S. 24th St.

*Southwest:* Mockingbird Hills Community Center, 10242 Mockingbird Dr.; Montclair Community Center, 2304 S. 135th Ave. Pipal Park Community Center, 7770 Hascall.

**OMAHA PERFORMING ARTS: 346-0202, <http://www.omahaperformingarts.org/opac.asp>**

Omaha Performing Arts needs approximately 50 volunteers each for 250 or so events at various performing arts venues in the city, including the Holland Performing Arts Center, the Orpheum Theatre, Jocelyn Art Museum, and the Strauss Performing Arts Center. A long term commitment is required of all volunteers, as well as a training session. (Only one hour of the training session may be counted as community service). Visit the web site above for specific information on the Ambassadors and the Presenters volunteer groups.

**OMAHA PUBLIC LIBRARY: 444-4835, <http://www.omahapubliclibrary.org/>**

This entity of Omaha city government has 11 branches. Volunteer activities for students are available periodically throughout the year. According to a new policy, all volunteers must complete an application and provide at least two personal references. Before placement, volunteers must go through an interview. More information, including branch locations, and the application form are available online.

**OMAHA SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL, <http://www.summerarts.org>**

The Omaha Summer Arts Festival is the largest event of its type in Omaha. More than 175 people volunteer each summer to help make it a success. Volunteers assist in a variety of ways, including: festival set-up, helping feed the visual artists, organizing and staffing the Children's Fair, assisting with performances, festival tear-down and clean up, and more. For more information and to sign up, go on line and click "Get Involved." A deadline for signing up usually is listed on the Volunteers page of the website.

**OMAHA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION: Volunteer Coordinator, 342-3836, 1605 Howard Street, 68102**

This regionally known organization is devoted to providing symphonic and orchestral music of the highest quality. Help may be needed for mailings and other small projects.

**OPEN DOOR MISSION: Volunteer Coordinator, 829-1504, 2706 North 21 Street East, 68110, <http://www.opendoormission.org>**

The Open Door Mission is devoted to the well being of the homeless and near-homeless. Year-round, volunteers are needed (but must contact the organization at least one week in advance) to help serve meals, provide general maintenance, assist with seasonal celebrations, process donations, engage in recreational activities with clients, and help with the lunch delivery program and the Streets of Omaha Project. Information about the Lydia House, a program of ODM, is also included in this handbook.

**PAWS FOR FRIENDSHIP, INC.: President, 850-7476**

PAWS, an international non-profit headquartered in Omaha, is an organization of volunteers sharing the unconditional love of their personal pets with people in need, throughout the world. Members visit hospitals and care centers throughout the city with their pet to provide companionship for the elderly. Visits usually take place several times daily throughout the year. Students are invited to earn community service hours by joining one of the members in a one-hour visit. Students are not able to bring their own pet with them (unless it already has been through the certification process), but accompanying members with more than one certified pet may be able to provide one for the student during the visit. Students also are invited to assist with fundraisers.

**PRESBYTERIAN OUTREACH: Volunteer Coordinator, 341-6559, 8447 Lake Street, 68131**

Presbyterian Outreach provides social service programs including the Health Equipment Loan Program (HELP). High school seniors interested in assisting with HELP can conduct inventory, clean the health equipment, and deliver health equipment on Monday and/or Thursday afternoons between 12:30 and 5:30 p.m. To assist with equipment delivery, students must be able to lift at least 70 pounds and can only volunteer during a free block of time if s/he will not be late to the next scheduled class and/or when school is not in session. Seniors can also assist with clerical work or, when available, special projects such as stuffing stockings for distribution at Christmas to prison inmates' children and building temporary or permanent ramps at the homes of low-income elderly.

**PREVENT BLINDNESS NEBRASKA: Executive Director, 505-6119, 6818 Grover Suite, Suite 102, <http://www.preventblindness.org/ne/>**

Prevent Blindness Nebraska is a statewide affiliate of Chicago-based Prevent Blindness America. The organization is committed to helping prevent and preserve sight. Further information about volunteering can be obtained by phone.

**PRIDE OMAHA, INC.: 397-3309**

According to the organization's website, PRIDE Omaha is one of the few original grassroots parent/community drug prevention organizations in this country that remains dedicated to preventing the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by children. No information is provided on the website about volunteer opportunities, but the organization has used student volunteers in the past. Call for information.

**PROJECT EXTRA MILE: 963-9047, 11606 Nicholas Street, 68154,  
<http://www.projectextramile.org>**

Project Extra Mile is a community coalition that was started in Omaha. Its mission is to "create a community consensus that clearly states that underage alcohol use is illegal, unhealthy, and unacceptable." The organization now operates in several areas of the state.

**PROJECT HARMONY, 595-1326: <http://www.projectharmony.com>**

The mission of Project Harmony is to protect children by providing community-based, integrated, comprehensive and coordinated child abuse assessment and investigation in a centralized location. Entities involved with the organization are the Omaha Police Department Youth Services Division and Nebraska Health and Human Services Child Protection Services. Due to the nature of services provided, community service opportunities for youth may be limited. Volunteers who work with children are subject to a background check.

**PROJECT HOPE: Executive Director, 453-7649, 4205 Boyd Street, 68111**

This agency provides food and other household supplies to needy families in Omaha. Students may earn community service hours by assisting with social service programs, such as the Food Pantry, but not for programs or activities involving religion.

**RADIO TALKING BOOK: Volunteer Coordinator, 572-3003 (a.m. only), 7101 Newport Avenue, Suite 205, 68152**

This organization for the blind, visually impaired, and elderly provides radio reading services. Volunteers are required to have excellent reading skills and mature voices to record materials such as magazine articles, and newspapers. An audition tape and training are required.

**RAINBOW HOUSE: 955-7815, 7815 Harney Street, 68114**

Rainbow House provides housing for families from out of town whose children are in treatment at Children's Hospital. Call for information about volunteer opportunities.

**RALSTON COMMUNITY THEATRE, 8969 Park Drive, Ralston, 68127**

This theatre offers a creative outlet for non-professionals and live performances for the community. Volunteers perform in plays and melodramas, build sets, run lights and sound, work in the box office and usher for performances. Unless working in the box office, ushering, or building sets, volunteers are expected to commit to the entire run of a show.

**RONALD McDONALD HOUSE: Volunteer Coordinator, 346-9377, 620 South 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 68105**

Housing is provided to children and their families from out of town who are receiving treatment at metropolitan area hospitals. Volunteers can help in the office and with daily, spring and fall cleaning. Volunteers do not provide child care.

**ROSE BLUMKIN JEWISH HOME: Director of Volunteer Services, 334-6519, 323 South 132 Street, 68154**

There are many interesting possibilities at this nursing facility. Students can decorate the building inside and out for the main holidays in September and October, give manicures on Thursday afternoons, call bingo, escort residents to the theatre at the Jewish Community Center, and more. The one-on-one

program, which is similar to a foster grandparent program, needs volunteers to interact with residents; training is required. Advanced music students might be able to play the piano for residents outside the dining room before mid-day and evening meals. Other opportunities include filling balloons with helium for birthday parties, watering plants, helping with the pets, and administrative duties such as sorting greeting cards and data entry. Volunteer opportunities are not available during Passover. *Students must call in advance to arrange their volunteer service. They will not be placed during the last few weeks of the semester.*

**ROSE PERFORMING ARTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, Assistant Box Office Manager, 502-4650, 2001 Farnam Street, 68102**

This company provides live theatre, dance, and arts education for children and families. It serves as the home for the regionally recognized Omaha Theatre Company and the Omaha Ballet Company.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SUPER THRIFT STORES (three locations)**

- **Store Manager, 5037 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street, 733-3500**
- **Store Manager, 2101 Leavenworth Street, 341-1688**
- **Store Manager, 5920 Maple Street, 551-5501**

**SALVATION ARMY: Metro Volunteer Services, 898-6000, 3612 Cuming Street, 68131**

Part of a national movement, this organization is committed to meeting human needs without discrimination. Volunteers are needed throughout the year, including holiday seasons, to work in any of the following areas: child care, seniors, homeless, mentoring, food service, food pantry, general office, disaster projects, arts projects, yard/building projects, and Christmas events.

**SIENNA/FRANCIS HOUSE: Volunteer Coordinator, 341-1821, 1702 Nicholas Street, 68102**

A safe homeless shelter, this organization provides food, clothing, and lodging for men, women, and children. It offers an addiction recovery program, a fundamental job training program, medical services and more. Help is needed for serving meals; sorting donations of toiletries, canned goods, clothing; projects such as yard clean up, decorating for holidays, making toiletry packets, writing thank you notes; and special events such as the annual street party and walk/run events. Students are able to earn one hour credit for each hour volunteered doing administrative or organizational activities.

**SOCIAL SETTLEMENT: Education Coordinator, 731-6988, 4860 Q Street, 68117**

Social Settlement was part of the national Settlement House movement, which originated in England during the late 1800's. The organization's mission is to empower and enrich children and adults of all ages by providing programs, education and community resources. Students may be able to assist with after-school activities until either 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., depending on the day.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEBRASKA: Volunteer Coordinator, 331-5545, extension 0, 8801 F Street, 68127, <http://www.sone.org>,**

This organization is devoted to providing sports training and competition to citizens, ages 8 and up, who are developmentally disabled. Competitions are year-round. They include the annual Summer Competition at Creighton University, usually in May, the Winter Sports Competition(s), and unified group sports (a developmentally disabled individual is matched with a non-developmentally disabled person.) Sports include softball, bocce, soccer, gymnastics, aquatics, golf, and tennis. Volunteers may be able to help wrap gifts at West Roads Mall during holiday seasons. Volunteers for all competitive sports programs are required to complete an application form, which is available on-line or by mail.

**STEPHEN CENTER: 731-0238, extension 28, 2723 Q Street, 68107**

The Stephen Center is the only homeless shelter in South Omaha. The organization is committed to assisting individuals and families restore their physical, emotional, and spiritual health through a continuum of care. In addition to providing food and shelter to the homeless, the Center operates a

medical clinic staffed by volunteer doctors and nurses a 90-day residential alcohol, drug, and domestic violence rehabilitation program. Student volunteer opportunities, which are limited to the shelter, include clerical and maintenance tasks such as answering the telephone, writing thank you notes, photocopying, straightening food stores, and cleaning.

**STRATEGIC AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM, 827-3100, extension 210, 28120 West Park Highway, (Interstate 80 Exit 426), Ashland, NE, 68003,**  
<http://www.strategicairandspace.com/> Ashland

Possible volunteer activities include minor construction projects, cataloguing items, assisting with the installation or deinstallation of exhibits, administrative projects such as mailings, and special events.

**SURPRISE THRIFT SHOP: 341-0625, 143 South 38 Street, 68131**

The Surprise Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers to sort donations, hang clothes, and tidy the store.

**TED E. BEAR HOLLOW: 502-2773, 347 North 76 Street, 68114,**  
<http://www.tedebearhollow.com>

The organization provides an atmosphere where children aged 4 – 19 can deal with the grief of losing a loved one and parents can learn how to help their children cope with the loss. Ted E. Bear Hollow welcomes volunteers to help with various activities, which include making comfort pillows, creating memory boxes, reading stories, and more.

**THOMAS FITZGERALD VETERAN'S HOME: Volunteer Director, 595-2180, Extension 0, 1 12505 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Bellevue, 68123**

This entity is a long-term care facility for aged veterans and their spouses. The organization utilizes the Eden Alternative approach to help alleviate loneliness, helplessness, and boredom. The facility houses an aviary, has several pet cats and a dog, and a garden. It hosts intergenerational activities, as well. Volunteers are needed to clean birdcages, groom the animals, work in the garden, and participate in spontaneous activities with the residents. Other volunteer opportunities could include calling bingo, decorating bulletin boards, and similar activities.

**TOWN & COUNTRY HUMANE SOCIETY: 339-5355, 14110 S. 84th St., Papillion, 68046,**  
<http://www.townandcountryhumanesociety.org/>

Town & Country Humane Society has become a no kill shelter. The organization is currently boarding animals from several rescue groups. Volunteer activities include but are not limited to exercising, socializing and grooming dogs, socializing cats and kittens, answering phones and computer work, helping with the newsletter, and assisting with special fund raising projects. To volunteer, call and leave your name and phone number with the person who answers the phone. He or she will pass the information on to the volunteer coordinator, who will return your call.

**UNITED WAY RESOURCE CENTER: Youth Services Coordinator, 522-7933, 1805 Harney Street, 68102, <http://www.uwmidlands.org>**

Choose from over 400 volunteer opportunities offered by various organizations. Opportunities include tutoring, data entry and assisting with bulk mail at the United Way office, participation in the Youth Leadership Committee, delivering meals on wheels, and many others. *Please note that some of the opportunity referrals United Way makes are for organizations that do not have the required 501(c)(3) status. Some organizations requesting volunteers through the United Way Volunteer Resource Center are not recognized by the IRS as 501(c)(3) nonprofits. If you are interested in performing community service for an organization listed on this site that is not included in this handbook, you must get advanced approval from your Government teacher to make sure it will count toward the requirement.*

*Somewhere on this planet, someone has a solution to each of the world's problems. It might be one of us. With your help, we can build a more hopeful world. - Marianne Larned, author*

**VETERAN'S AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER: Program Assistant, Voluntary Service, 449-0649, 4101 Woolworth Avenue, 68105**

Volunteers aged 19 or younger may work in the admitting and business offices, the emergency room, the housekeeping department (during school breaks and the summer), and the pharmacy. Scheduling is flexible. Parental permission is required for all teen volunteers, and they must complete health screening, which includes a TB test. All volunteers must follow a dress code and are asked to approach their community service as they would a job.

**VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION: Volunteer Coordinator, 930-4177, 1941 South 42 Street, Suite 225, Omaha, 68105**

This organization is devoted to providing special needs to individuals who are homebound. Assistance is needed for the fall flu clinics, visiting homebound individuals, and other activities.

**VOICES FOR CHILDREN: 715 Main Street, Suite 103, Ralston, 68127,  
<http://www.voicesforchildren.com>**

This organization is dedicated to serving children in Nebraska through advocacy; equipping parents, professionals, and volunteers to meet the needs of children; and inspiring Nebraskans to put children's needs first. Student volunteers may be able to help with special events such as the A Work of Heart Gala.

**YMCA: <http://www.metroymca.org/findfile.asp?id2=200>**

Eleven Omaha area YMCA branches provide recreational services and activities for children and adults. Volunteering could include refereeing for various children's sports, day care, building maintenance, assisting with aquatics, helping with fundraisers, data entry, and more. Volunteers should give thought to the kinds of things they might be interested in doing before calling. The South/Southwest YMCA is one of many locations throughout the Omaha area where students may perform community service. The South/Southwest branch is located at 13010 Atwood Avenue. The phone number is 334-8487. For other locations and phone numbers, please go to the web address above or consult the Yellow Pages of the phone book.

*True generosity requires more of us than kindly impulse. Above all it requires imagination - the capacity to see people in all their perplexities and needs, and to know how to expend ourselves effectively for them.* – Ida Alexa Ross Wylie, Novelist and Poet